



Freshwater Introduction South of Highway 82 (ME-16)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2000 **Project Area:** 19,988 acres

Approved Funds: \$726,223 **Total Est. Cost:** \$5.9 M

Net Benefit After 20 Years: 296 acres

Status: Engineering and Design

Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration

Location

The project is located in the north central and eastern portions of Rockefeller State Wildlife Refuge and Game Preserve in Cameron and Vermilion parishes, Louisiana.

Problems

The Chenier and Lakes Subbasins are parts of the Mermentau Basin. The Chenier Subbasin lies between Louisiana Highway 82 and the Gulf of Mexico. The Lakes Subbasin is north of Louisiana Highway 82 and includes Grand and White Lakes and surrounding marshes. The Chenier Subbasin has been experiencing saltwater intrusion due to lack of freshwater and sediment input from the Lakes Subbasin.

Restoration Strategy

The proposed project components include: installation of approximately four freshwater introduction water control structures; plug removal; one structure modification; canal enlargement north of Louisiana Highway 82 to allow water flow across the highway to facilitate water flow from the Lakes Subbasin south into the Chenier Subbasin. High water levels in the Lakes Subbasin afford the opportunity to divert water into the Chenier Subbasin. Earthen terraces will also be constructed. Rockefeller State Wildlife Refuge's Unit 14, a total impoundment, is not within the project boundary.

Progress to Date

The project was approved for engineering and design in January 2000. A project implementation meeting was held in April 2000. Project hydrologic modeling was completed in September 2003. Design of modeled features began in February 2003. A preliminary 30 % design meeting was held in May 2003. In July 2003, project sponsors concurred to proceed to project construction. This project is on Priority Project List 9.



View of the project's brackish marsh target area south to the Gulf of Mexico.



View of large area of shallow open water in the project area looking north to White Lake where terraces will be constructed.

For more project information, please contact:



Federal Sponsor:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lafayette, LA
(337) 291-3100

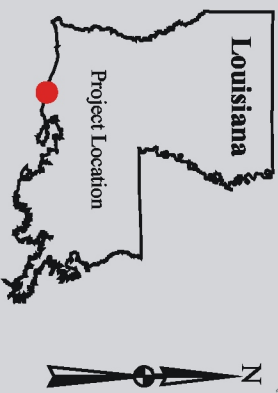


Local Sponsor:
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Baton Rouge, LA
(225) 342-7308

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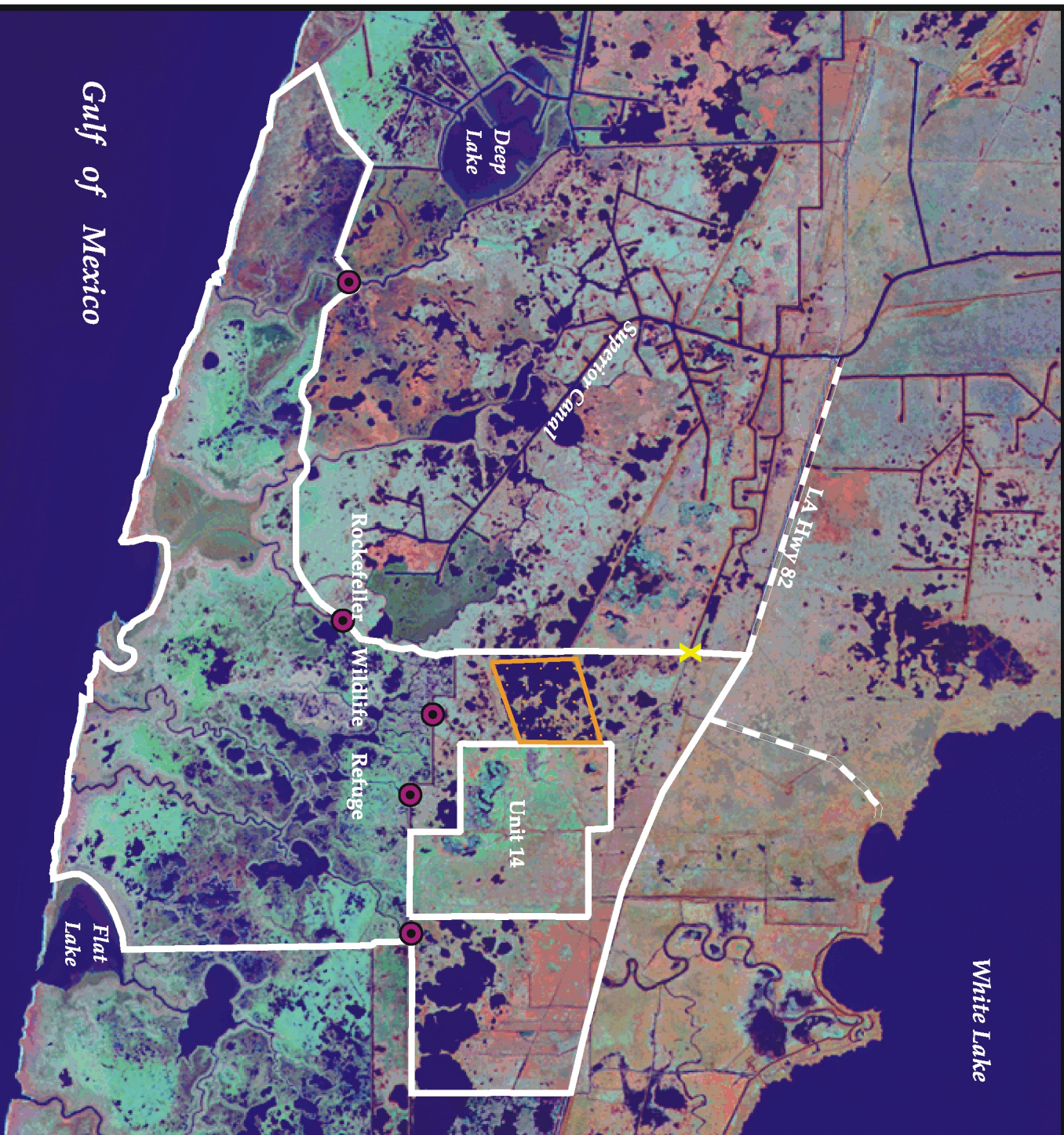
-  Water Control Structure *
 -  Remove Existing Plug
 -  Dredge Channel *
 -  Terraces *
 -  Project Boundary
- * denotes proposed feature

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Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
Thematic Mapper Satellite Imagery 2000
Map Date: August 12, 2003
Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2003-11-055
Data accurate as of: March 11, 2003



Gulf of Mexico

White Lake

Deep Lake

Superior Canal

LA Hwy 82

Rockefeller

Wildlife Refuge

Unit 14

Flat Lake